IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
APPELLATE SIDE

CRIMINAL APPLICATION NO. 2165 OF 2007

Mr.Ashok Vishwanath Hiremath
and others. ... Applicants.

V/s.

State of Maharashtra. ... Respondent.

Subhash Jha i/b. Law Global for the applicants.

Ms.M.M.Deshmukh, APP for the State.

CORAM: V.C.DAGA, J.

DATED: 3rd July 2007.

P.C.:

. Not on board. Mentioned by learned counsel for the applicants. Taken up on board for hearing by consent of parties.

2. The applicants have invoked jurisdiction of this Court to seek interim protection for four weeks on the apprehension of their arrest since about 6 to 7 police personnel attached to the MIDC Waluj Police Station, Aurangabad had visited the office of the applicants at Nariman Point, Mumbai on 29th June, 2007 and picked up Mr.Ramesh Pingle, Manager, Regulatory Affairs (applicant No.5) and took him to Aurangabad; wherein he was threatened of his arrest and detention and so also of other applicants on the basis of FIR (C.R.No.I-164/07) lodged by M/s.Nath Bio-genes (I) Ltd. with the MIDC Waluj Police Station, Aurangabad

against M/s.Astec LifeSciences Ltd. and its directors/ executives, inter alia; alleging offences under sections 406, 420, 468, 471 read with section 34 of Indian Penal Code.

3. Mr.Jha, learned counsel for the applicants submits that till date none of the applicants have been arrested. He, therefore, prayed for interim protection for limited period with direction to the police station not to arrest the applicants for a period of 10 days so as to enable them to take appropriate steps as may be permissible in law.

4. In the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case on hand, he is seeking transit bail for 10 days. Thus, considering the averments made in the application, directions are issued that the applicants shall not be arrested in connection with C.R.No.I-164/07 for a period of ten days from the date of this order. However, during this period they shall appear before the P.S.I., MIDC Waluj Police Station, Aurangabad and shall co-operate with them in the investigation. However, this direction shall be subject to the result of appropriate order by the competent Court. It is needless to mention that on expiry of 10 days, this order shall automatically lapse.

5. Application accordingly stands disposed of in terms of this order with no order as to costs.

JUDGE